Re-Alignment of NH-31

2355. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware of the fact that re-alignment of NH-31 from Falakata to Pundibari in Cooch Behar, West Bengal remains incomplete because of the non-completion of a major Reinforced Concrete Cement (RCC) bridge on the Torsa river;

(b) whether it is a fact that State Government of West Bengal has forwarded a revised estimate to the Union Government seeking timely completion of the project; and

(c) the steps which are being taken by Central Government to ensure early completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Action has been initiated for obtaining the approval of the competent authority for the 2nd revised cost estimate of this project.

Highways in Gujarat

2356. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals from different States which are under consideration to convert roads of respective States into National Highways, State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that Gujarat is lagging for behind, so far as National Highways' length is concerned; and

(c) the status of the proposal of Gujarat for the conversion of roads into National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) In February, 2004, the Ministry has declared 7457 kms. of State roads as National Highways including 410 kms. in Gujarat. Thereafter, this Ministry has received another 107 proposals from various State Governments which include 19 proposals from Gujarat for declaration of National Highways.